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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: HIDEAKI KURIHARA, et al.
Serial No.: 10/066,463
Filed: January 31, 2002
Title: Rate Control Device for Variable-Rate Voice Encoding...
Examiner: Martin Lerner
Group Art Unit: 2654

January 7, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

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JAN 09 2003

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 7, 2002, please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

2.(amended) A device for a variable-rate encoding system, comprising:

an LSP coefficient calculating unit calculating an LSP coefficient obtained from a voice signal;

an LSP interval judging unit judging whether an interval between the LSP coefficients is equal to or less than a prescribed threshold value;

a judging unit judging whether the voice signal is a vowel when a voice part of the voice signal is sounded; and

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Filed by Express Mail

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pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 10.

By Francis Doyle